MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
January 25, 2021

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2021, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council members William Daily, Mike Leman, Rick Graverson and James Leeper were present. Also present were: Trend Weldy, Director of Operations; Ken Jones – Town Engineer; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

MINUTES: Mr. Graverson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims without amendment; Mr. Graverson made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Leman and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 2-2021, regarding certain transfers of appropriations. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Ordinance 2-2021 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Leman and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Resolution 2021-2, regarding the reimbursement of EMS funds from the State COVID fund in the amount of $142,277.62. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-2, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner gave the Council an update on the annexation of the IMPA parcel and the draft zoning ordinance. He also told the Council that the Redevelopment Commission's purchase of the property at 125 East Plymouth Street had been completed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Anna Salazar, a downtown business owner, appeared before the Council to discuss the location of the planter in front of her property and explained that the planter might interfere with an outdoor table she sets up during the warmer months. Mr. Weldy told Ms. Salazar that he would work with her on the location of her table.

Joe Blakley appeared before the Council and asked whether the lot at 125 East Plymouth Street was open for public parking. Mr. Weldy confirmed that it could be used for public parking at this time and discussed the plans to remove the existing building later on in the spring. Mr. Blakley also stated that he had questions regarding the conclusion of the downtown streetscape project, but deferred to Mr. Weldy's report for that information.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Weldy submitted his report. He also informed the Council that the downtown streetscape project was approximately 95% done at the time. He noted several issues that needed to be reviewed, including the direction of some benches and issues with rust on the tree grates. Mr. Jones offered some additional information on the tree grate issue. Mr. Weldy told the Council that the traffic signal poles should be installed the following week, and that Plymouth Street would be closed for several days during the installation. The Council asked several questions about the lighting downtown, and Mr. Weldy explained the types of lighting that would be used for the different types of poles and noted that the posts were all wired for audio and electrical outlets.

Mr. Leman asked Mr. Weldy whether the ambulance board sub-committee examining a municipal EMS department had plans to organize soon, and Mr. Weldy explained

that the initial research conducted by Chief Neher with other municipal departments had not been promising. Mr. Leman stated that he would contact Chief Neher to determine how to proceed.

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Jones told the Council that the Community Crossroads project had been advertised for bids, but the bid opening should be pushed back to the February 22, 2021 meeting. He also told the Council that the wastewater treatment plant report data collection was almost completed and the report should be finished soon. Mr. Jones stated that the contracts for the North Center Street project would be completed shortly and requested the Council grant Mr. Leeper permission to execute the contracts when available. Mr. Jones then informed the Council that he and Mr. Mikel had been reviewing some of the pipe systems in the Town in order to better evaluate future projects, and he noted that some of the piping in Town was approximately 124 years old while a large portion of the system was comprised of pipes that were at least 50 years old. He also expressed concern that some of the older pipes were made with unsuitable materials that would need to be replaced eventually. Mr. Jones told the Council that the JPR structural engineer had reviewed the parking lot across from the Police Station and had given three possible courses of action. The first would be to completely demolish and backfill the basement before repaving the parcel, with an estimated cost of approximately $110,000.00. The second option involved removing the basement floor and cutting the walls down with an estimate approximate cost of $50,000.00 – $60,000.00. The third option was to simply cover the basement, but he expressed some safety concerns for the property over time. The Council took the information under advisement.

Mr. Weldy interjected and asked the Council to approve Resolution 2021-3, regarding a personal property tax abatement for Indiana Carton. Mr. Weldy explained that Indiana Carton had recently purchased a gluing machine, worth approximately $1.55 million dollars, and that the abatement was a standard 5-year abatement. Mr. Weldy noted that Indiana Carton did not intend to create any new positions with the machinery, but that the new equipment did help them remain competitive in their marketplace. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-3, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Daily made a motion to authorize Mr. Leeper to sign the North Center Street contracts from JPR when available, which was seconded by Mr. Leman and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Graverson asked Ms. Anglemyer when the review of water rates would take place, and Ms. Anglemyer explained that BakerTilly would be conducting their review in February and reporting to the Council shortly therafter.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Leman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

Janet M. Anglemyer,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

James Leeper, President